

Springfield 2020

Reopening Our Schools

2020-2021

#SearchLearnServeSpringfield

Virtual-Only Start Plan Proposal

- Board Authorize the District to Revise the Springfield 2020: Reopening our Schools Plan
- Virtual Only Instruction to Begin September 10, 2020
- Phased Approach to Hybrid Model in November 2020, based on state and local health guidance

Revising the Plan

Critical Factors

- The plan presented on August 10, 2020 represented the prior guidance received from the New Jersey Department of Education.
- We expected then, and continue to expect changes to come from the NJDOE that impact ability to implement the plan.
- Since that meeting there have been critical changes that require a revision to our plan for moving forward, and minimize the number of changes necessary to begin the school year.
 - * Wednesday, August 13, 2020: Governor Murphy approved starting the school year virtually.
 - * Thursday, August 14, 2020: Executive Order No. 175 released
 - * Thursday, August 14, 2020: New Jersey Department of Health guidance released

State Guidance

- Governor Murphy, Executive Order No. 175
 - * Acknowledges that safely opening schools for in-person instruction may require additional time.
 - * “Whereas, a school district may need additional time to properly implement the health and safety precautions necessary to return any portion of the student population to in-person instruction...” (p. 4).
 - * Supersedes Executive Order Nos. 104 and 107 (closing schools)
 - * Does not supersede Executive Order No. 173 to reduce indoor gatherings to 25% of the “capacity of the room in which it takes place...the limit shall never be larger than 25 persons” (p. 6)

Decision Matrix

State of New Jersey	Staffing	Students	Decision Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State in “Maximum Restrictions” 	IF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All buildings and offices operate with limited in-person interaction 		WHAT DO WE NEED IN ORDER TO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide high level virtual learning experiences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State in Stage I 			WHAT DO WE NEED IN ORDER TO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide high level virtual learning experiences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State in Stage II with Additional Restrictions Indoor Capacity Limited Legislative Changes Governor’s Orders 	IF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less than 50% of staff able to provide in-person instruction 	THEN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All instruction will be virtual or In-person instruction may be limited to only self-contained special education students. 	WHAT DO WE NEED IN ORDER TO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide high level virtual learning experiences Develop a modified Stage 1 approach to specific in-person programs (i.e. Special Ed)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State in Stage II 	IF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operating with sufficient staff to support modified in-person learning plans 	THEN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified in-person learning plans will meet state requirements based on district capacity 	WHAT DO WE NEED IN ORDER TO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop schedules to maximize learning opportunities Identify dates for in-person instruction to begin Communicate transportation requirements Follow health & safety requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State in Stage III 			ALL OF THE ABOVE, AND... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify dates for in-person instruction to expand

Critical Challenges

- Room Utilization
- Transportation
- **Number of Students Anticipated**
- **Staffing Availability**
- Community Bandwidth
- **Possible State and Local Funding Shifts**
- **Shifting NJDOE & NJDOH Guidance**

Essential Information

Student Participation

- As of 11:00 am today, 60% (1,336) of our families responded regarding their plans for the 2020-2021 school year.
 - * Overall 40% of families have indicated virtual only instruction
 - * Grades PK-5: Range 33%-44%
 - * Grades 6-8: Range 41%-43%
 - * JDHS: Range: 37%- 44%

Certificated Staff Concerns

- 60% certificated staff, inclusive of teachers, guidance counselors, child study team members and nurses have submitted a request of an accommodation, with the possibility of requesting a leave of absence
- 26% certificated staff, inclusive of teachers, guidance counselors, child study team members and nurses have indicated at-risk indicators consistent with NJDOH guidance

Framework for Health & Safety

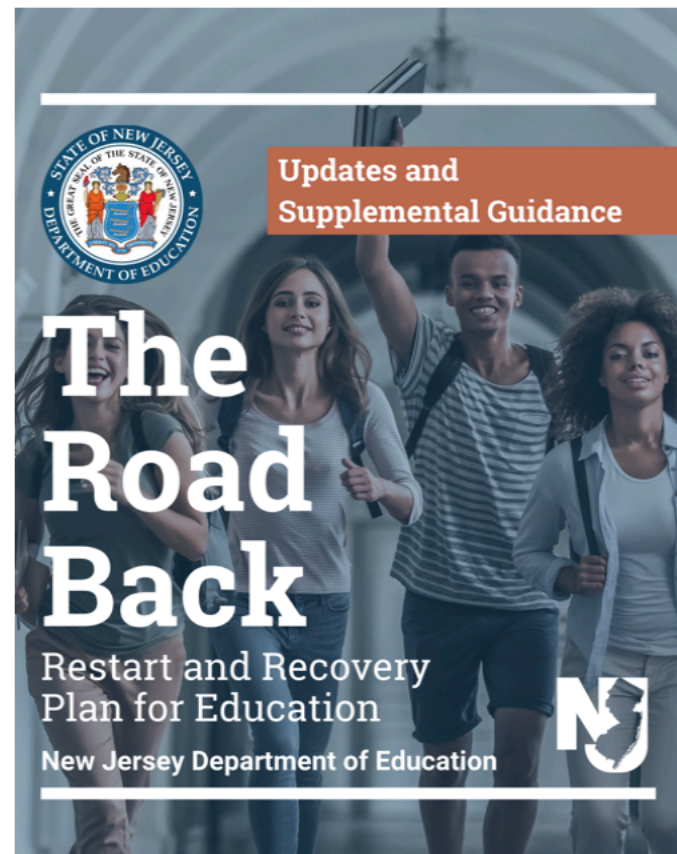
- The health and safety of our staff and students is the most critical priority as we work to support meaningful instruction.
- All of the practices discussed in the slides that follow are subject to change based on the guidance of local and state health officials.

Protecting the Health of Students and Staff

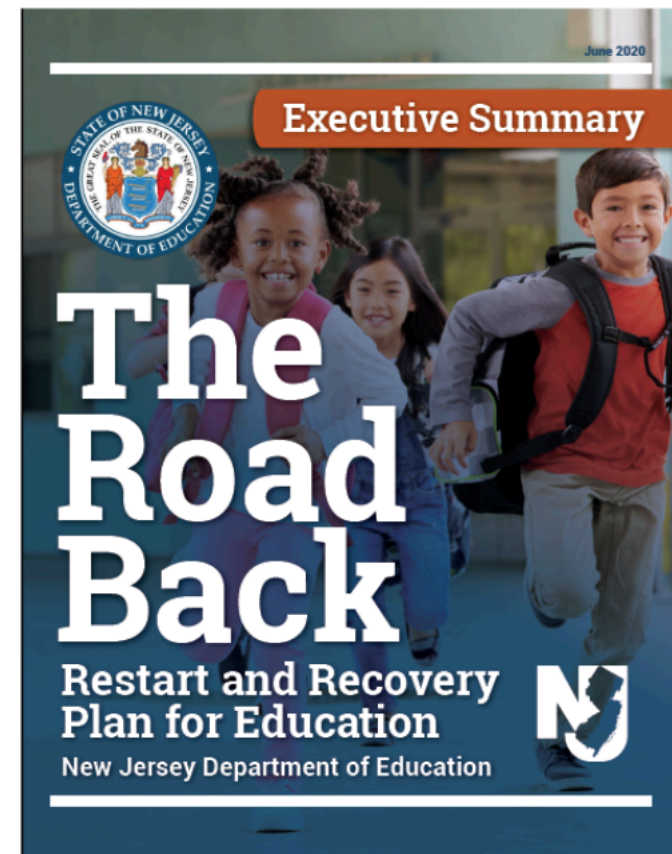
- Critical need for testing and training of the OnCourse health questionnaire and screening process
 - * Parent usage
 - * Transportation usage
 - * Staff usage
- Currently installing 200 hand sanitizers, the shipment was delayed and arrived late last week
- Currently installing more than 70 window air vents
- Ongoing training for use of electrostatic sprayers and enhanced sanitation protocols

Shifting Guidance

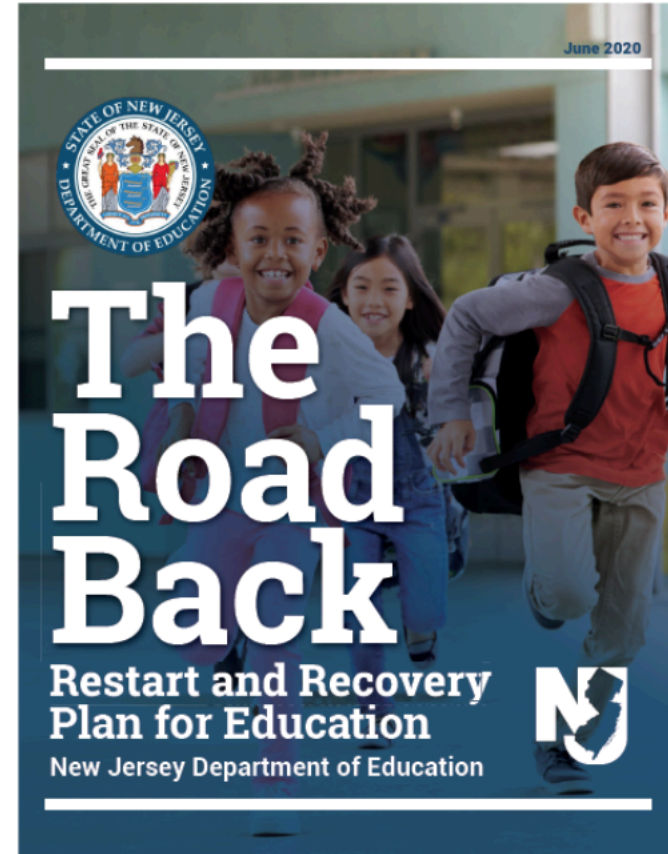
New Jersey Department of Education Guidance



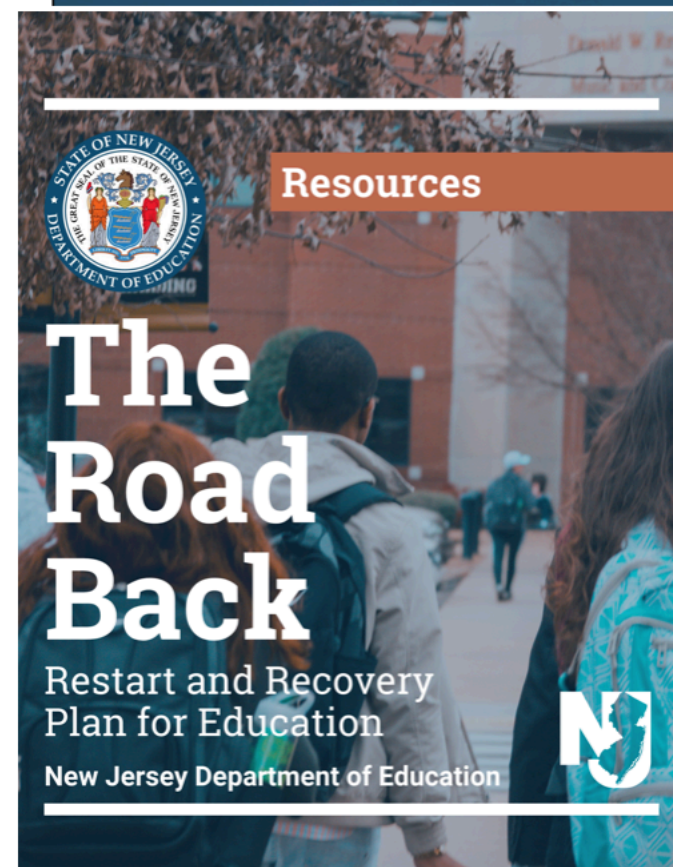
Updates and Supplemental Guidance



Executive Summary
Resources



Full Plan



- June 28, 2020: "The Road Back" is Released
- July 24, 2020: Clarifying Expectations
- July 28, 2020: Health & Safety Additional Considerations
- August 3, 2020: Health & Safety Anticipated Minimum Standards & Additional Considerations
- August 7, 2020: Meal Service
- Week of August 10th: District Plans Due
- August 13, 2020: Executive Order No. 175
- August 13, 2020: NJDOH Guidance
- Today: Feedback to revise ventilation language in the plan

New Jersey Department of Health Guidance



New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools

August 13, 2020

NJDOH will implement a statewide approach for school reopening with a regional/local focus. The reopening of schools requires a broad community commitment to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19. Such commitment involves social distancing, wearing face coverings, cleaning and disinfection and meticulous hygiene practices such as frequent handwashing. Some amount of community mitigation will also be necessary until a vaccine or therapeutic drug becomes widely available.

As schools resume operations, they should consider how best to structure educational services to minimize risk to staff and students in line with the [New Jersey Department of Education \(NJDOE\)'s "The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education"](#) guidelines and [Executive Order 175](#). The CDC's [School and Child Care Programs](#) page provides various resources and recommendations for school operations and is meant to supplement, **not replace**, any state or local health and safety laws, rules, and regulations with which schools must comply.

This guidance document outlines NJDOH COVID-19 public health recommendations for school settings and is intended for use by local health departments (LHDs). This guidance is based on what is currently known about the transmission and severity of COVID-19 and is subject to change as additional information is known. Please check the NJDOH, NJDOE and CDC websites frequently for updates.

- “Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in children may be similar to those of common viral respiratory infections or other childhood illnesses” (p. 10).
- “There is not a single symptom that is uniquely predictive of a COVID-19 diagnosis” (p. 10).
- Based on the [“regional risk matrix” available on August 17, 2020](#), Union County is at a “Moderate” risk, indicating students with multiple symptoms (i.e. headache and cough) should be excluded from school following the “Exclusion Table” (p. 12-13).
- “Closure is a local decision that should be made by school administrators in consultation with local public health” (p. 15).

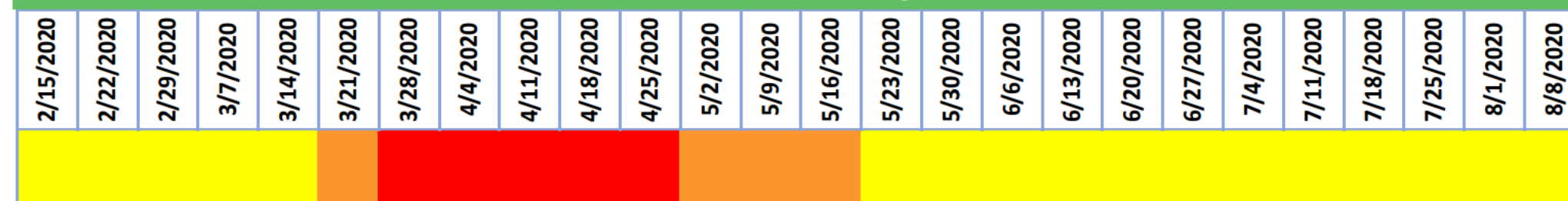
New Jersey Department of Health Guidance



COVID-19 Activity Level Report

New Jersey Department of Health
Communicable Disease Service
Week ending August 8, 2020 (MMWR week 32)¹

COVID-19 Statewide Activity Level Timeline



■ Low
 ■ Moderate
 ■ High
 ■ Very High



Region ²	Current Activity Level
Northwest	LOW
Northeast	LOW
Central West	MODERATE
Central East	MODERATE
Southwest	MODERATE
Southeast	MODERATE
STATEWIDE	MODERATE



COVID-19 Regional Risk Matrix

**For use by LHDs when providing guidance to school districts*

Next Slide!

Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk
<p>Evaluate whether there are students or staff who are at increased risk of severe illness and seek alternatives to ensure continuity of work or educational services.</p> <p>In response to COVID-19 positive staff or student, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts following CDC guidance; refer to guidance on cleaning and disinfection.</p> <p>In response to ill students and staff, follow NJDOH School Exclusion List.</p> <p>* If ill person had potential exposure in past 14 days, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; wait at least 24 hours and clean/disinfect areas where ill person spent time.</p> <p>Permit limited activities involving interaction with multiple cohorts, ensuring adherence to precautions.</p>	<p>Implement remote learning for students and staff at high risk of severe illness; consider hybrid learning approaches, and/or fully remote learning.</p> <p>In response to COVID-19 positive staff or student, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts following CDC guidance; refer to guidance on cleaning and disinfection.</p> <p>In response to ill students and staff, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; wait at least 24 hours and clean/disinfect areas where ill person spent time.</p> <p>Minimize activities that involve interaction with multiple cohorts.</p>	<p>Implement fully remote learning unless school can ensure complete adherence to all prevention & control measures.</p> <p><i>If schools remain open for in-person learning:</i></p> <p>In response to staff or student who is COVID-19 positive or who has COVID-19 symptoms (not yet tested), follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts according to CDC guidance; refer to guidance on cleaning and disinfection.</p> <p>* Decisions on when ill person's close contacts can return to school are dependent on the ill person's medical evaluation and COVID-19 test results.</p> <p>Restrict activities that involve interaction with multiple cohorts.</p>	<p>Implement fully remote learning</p>
<p>RISK LEVELS GREEN, YELLOW, AND ORANGE (IF OPEN FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require staff and students to stay home when sick or if they have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 within the past 14 days. Parents/guardians, students and staff should notify school 			

New Jersey Department of Health Guidance

COVID-19 Exclusion Table: Exclusion criteria for staff, students and close contacts

	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk
COVID-19 positive (viral test), symptomatic or asymptomatic	Exclude according to COVID-19 exclusion criteria Work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts for 14 days from last exposure	Exclude according to COVID-19 exclusion criteria Work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts for 14 days from last exposure	Exclude according to COVID-19 exclusion criteria Work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts for 14 days from last exposure	Not Applicable (remote learning)
COVID-19 symptoms but not tested for COVID-19 and no alternate diagnosis	If no potential exposure to COVID-19 in the last 14 days individual can follow NJDOH School Exclusion List If person has potential exposure to COVID-19 in the last 14 days, exclude according to COVID-19 exclusion criteria .	Exclude according to COVID-19 exclusion criteria	Exclude according to COVID-19 exclusion criteria Work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts for 14 days from last exposure, or until symptomatic individual tests negative for COVID-19 or receives an alternate diagnosis from a medical provider	
COVID-19 symptoms and negative COVID-19 test	Exclude individual through 24 hours after their fever has ended without the use of fever reducing medications and other symptoms improve	Exclude individual through 24 hours after their fever has ended without the use of fever reducing medications and other symptoms improve	Exclude individual through 24 hours after their fever has ended without the use of fever reducing medications and other symptoms improve	
COVID-19 symptoms BUT with alternate diagnosis from a healthcare provider	Exclude individual based on diagnosis, using NJDOH School Exclusion List	Exclude individual based on diagnosis, using NJDOH School Exclusion List	Exclude individual based on diagnosis, using NJDOH School Exclusion List	
Close contact of COVID-19 positive staff or student or to someone with COVID-19 symptoms (high risk level only)	Close contacts of persons who test positive for COVID-19 should be excluded through 14 days from date of last contact.	Close contacts of persons who test positive for COVID-19 should be excluded through 14 days from date of last contact	Close contacts of persons who test positive for COVID-19 should be excluded through 14 days from date of last contact. Close contacts of an individual with COVID-19 symptoms should be excluded through 14 days from date of last contact, or until ill individual receives an alternate diagnosis or tests negative for COVID-19.	

Based our current “Risk” students or teachers could be “excluded” from school between 24 hours and 14 days depending on symptoms.

In an in-person A/B hybrid schedule, this means that classes may be frequently cancelled, possibly with little notice. This may require a substitute.

Clarification and understanding best practices and responses will help us to respond with consistency.

New Jersey Department of Health Guidance

Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in children may be similar to those of common viral respiratory infections or other childhood illnesses. The overlap between COVID-19 symptoms and other common illnesses means that many people with symptoms of COVID-19 may actually be ill with something else. This is even more likely in young children, who typically have multiple viral illnesses each year. Individuals with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild to severe illness. There is not a single symptom that is uniquely predictive of a COVID-19 diagnosis. A COVID-19 viral test is needed to confirm if someone has a current infection. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and include the following:

- Fever or chills;
- Cough;
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- Fatigue;
- Muscle or body aches;
- Headache;
- New loss of taste or smell;
- Sore throat;
- Congestion or runny nose;
- Nausea or vomiting;
- Diarrhea.

Many of these symptoms are consistently reported by students throughout the school day.

Parents should not send students to school when sick. School staff should have plans to isolate students with overt symptoms of any infectious disease that develop during the school day. For school settings, CDC recommends that students and staff with the following symptoms be promptly isolated from others and excluded from school:

- At least **two** of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion or runny nose; **OR**
- At least **one** of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, new taste disorder.

We will need to be prepared to open and close schools, “exclude” students and teachers pending testing, and move between in-person and virtual instruction on an almost constant basis.

Getting Virtual Instruction Right

We are deeply committed to significantly improving the virtual learning experience for all of our students and providing high-quality instruction and student support.

Valuing the In-Person Experience

- Schools will work with staff to develop time for students to “drop by” to outdoor meet and greets. They will be scheduled to maintain social distance, but allow for a connection between the teachers and students.
- Identifying in-person options for self-contained special education students
- Working with OT and PT providers to provide on-site services
- Identifying opportunities for small group in-person supports for students with IEPs and 504 Plans
- Phase in hybrid instruction, starting with self-contained and early grades.
- In October, families will be asked to identify their choice for the remainder of the school year, and when in-person instruction begins schools will confirm with their families

Getting Virtual Instruction Right

- Teachers will be expected to provide in-person real-time instruction throughout the day, with a clear schedule for students and families. Examples of such schedules are available in the Springfield 2020: Reopening Our Schools Plan and the online presentations provided to the Board of Education.
- The district is in the process of adding the Google Apps for Education (GAFE) Suite, to provide critical tools necessary for teacher and student collaboration.
- All teachers are expected to fully utilize OnCourse to support active communication with students and parents.

(Continued)

Getting Virtual Instruction Right

(Continued)

- Staff will be evaluated as specified in state and district policies on their instruction through observations of virtual and in-person classrooms.
- Staff will be required to include social-emotional learning (SEL) supports throughout their instruction.
- Guidance counselors will be required to meet with students on a regular basis to support the SEL framework, and in the high school, provide ongoing college planning and application support.
- We will be asking for feedback from our families, and will continue to use that feedback to strengthen our programs and services.

PreK All Virtual Schedule

We are working with the Creative Curriculum team to support our teachers to provide developmentally appropriate pre-school online interaction. Additional information will be provided in the coming week regarding the PreK Schedule.

K-5 All Virtual Schedule

Please note, this is not exact and is subject to significant changes

Approx. Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM Learning 4 Hours	Zoom Morning Meeting				
	Physical Education ELA Math	ELA Physical Education Math	Physical Education ELA Math	Physical Education ELA Small Group Instruction & Support	Math Special Area Group Instruction/ Science Instruction
Lunch Break			Teacher Planning & Prof. Dev.	Lunch Break	
Virtual Instr 1 Hr/10 Min	SS Instruction Small Group Instruction & Support	Special Area Group Instruction/ Small Group Instruction & Support		Special Area Group Instruction/ Small Group Instruction & Support	Special Area Group Instruction/ Small Group Instruction & Support

6-8 Virtual Sample Schedule

Please note, this is not exact and is subject to significant changes

Approx. Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM Learning 4 Hours	SEL Morning Check-in				
	Phys Ed ELA Instruction Small Group Instruction & Support	Phys Ed Special Areas /Electives	Phys. Ed Small Group Instruction & Support	Math Instruction Phys Ed/ Health Small Group Instruction & Support	Small Group Instruction & Support Phys Ed/ Health
Lunch			Teacher Planning & Prof. Dev.	Lunch	
Virtual Instr 1 Hr/10 Min	SS Instruction	Special Areas /Electives Small Group Instruction & Support		Special Areas/ Electives Small Group Instruction & Support	Science Instruction
	SEL Closing			SEL Closing	

9-12 Virtual Sample Schedule

Please note, this is not exact and is subject to significant changes

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday All Virtual	Thursday	Friday
AM Block	English I Online (120 Minutes)	Student Asynchronous Learning All Course Areas	SEL & Health Online (60 Min)	Geometry Online (120 Minutes)	Student Asynchronous Learning All Course Areas
			Math Online Check-In (60 Min)		
	Western Civ. Online (120 Minutes)	Spanish I Online (120 Minutes)	Sci Online Check-In (60 Min)	Biology Online (120 Minutes)	Band Online 120 Min
Travel & Transition					
PM Block	Spanish I Online Check In (40)	Band Online Check In (40)		ELA Online Check In (40)	SS Online Check In (40)
	Phys. Ed. (30 Min)	Phys. Ed. (30 Min)		Phys. Ed. (30 Min)	Student Asynchronous Learning

High School Athletics

- Per NJSIAA, Fall Athletics is set to begin September 15, 2020
- We are asking for all athletes participating in Fall sports to submit their physical information to be identified as eligible to participate
- Additional information will be provided as we receive it; the coaches have been communicating with athletes and families and will continue to do so.

Revised Plan Timeline

- September 8-9, 2020: 2 Additional Days of Professional Development for Staff relating to virtual instruction
- September 10, 2020: Full District PreK-12 Virtual Instruction Begins
- On or before October 19, 2020: The district will present the district status of proceeding with the reopening plan. In grades K-12, this will be a two-day “A/B” model. Pre-school will be scheduled based on the student-teacher ratio.
- Week of November 2, 2020: If the district is able to move forward, students in grades K-6 will begin in-person learning opportunities.
- November 17, 2020: If the district is able to move forward, students in grades 7-12 will begin Marking Period 2 with in-person learning opportunities.